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Department of State

A4

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

EXCISE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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ORIGIN ARA-16

REVIEWED BY E.B Rantell DATE 1/26/83

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 CIAE-00 IO-10 NSC-05

RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT DATE

TS AUTH. REASON(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☐

RELEASE DENIED ☒ in part

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS 552(b)(1) E.O. 12356

AID:RWEBER ARA/EPP:PLASBURY

L/ARA:KSGUDGEON (SDES)

L/HRR:ASUREDA

L/LEI:FARMSTRONG

Tell about two recent loans RPT US

STATE 005485

WITH CONGRESS THAT WE WILL NOT VOTE IN [redacted] LOANS FOR BOLIVIA PENDING AMBASSADOR CORR'S EVALUATION OF THE SUBJECT. THE BASIS IS ABSTAINED RECENTLY ON AN IDB LOAN FOR A BOLIVIAN GAS PIPELINE PROJECT.

[redacted]

HE FAILURE OF THE GOB TO DEAL WITH NARCOTICS EFFECTIVELY IMPEDES OUR ABILITY TO BE RESPONSIVE TO TORRELIO'S PLEAS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

6. THE DEPARTMENT AND DEA BELIEVE THAT WE CAN AND SHOULD PROVIDE INCENTIVES TO TORRELIO TO DEAL WITH THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM. HOWEVER, IF HE IS NOT WILLING AND ABLE TO TAKE EFFECTIVE ACTIONS ALONG THE LINES WE PROPOSE, OR BY OTHER MEANS EQUALLY SUPPORTIVE OF THE SAME OBJECTIVES, WE WOULD THEN BE OBLIGED TO REEVLUATE OUR JUDGMENT ABOUT THE EXTENT TO WHICH HIS GOVERNMENT MERITS USG SUPPORT. WHILE WE ARE NOT PROPOSING A DEADLINE FOR THE GOB TO CARRY OUT AN EFFECTIVE ANTI-NARCOTICS PROGRAM, WE WOULD EXPECT TO SEE SOME COMMENCEMENT OF CONCRETE

ACTIONS ON ALL FACETS OF A PROGRAM BY THE END OF JANUARY/EARLY FEBRUARY.

7. THE FOLLOWING MEASURES ARE A PACKAGE, WHICH WILL INDICATE THE GOB'S POLITICAL WILL/ABILITY TO DEAL SERIOUSLY WITH THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM:

- A. TO ASSIST PRESIDENT TORRELIO AND THE EMBASSY IN DETERMINING THE EXTENT OF THE NARCOTICS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IN BOLIVIA, THE DEA LA PAZ OFFICE WOULD BE INCREASED FROM ONE AGENT TO SIX AGENTS AND ONE SECRETARY. WE WOULD EXPECT THAT THIS INCREASE IN PERSONNEL WOULD ENABLE THE IDENTIFICATION AND ARREST OF A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF VIOLATORS AND THE SEIZURE OF NARCOTIC SUBSTANCES BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY. AN INCREASED DEA PRESENCE IN BOLIVIA WOULD ALSO HELP CLARIFY THE EXTENT TO WHICH GOB OFFICIALS ARE INVOLVED IN NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING. AT THE DISCRETION OF AMBASSADOR CORR, INFORMATION CONFIRMING OFFICIAL GOB PARTICIPATION IN ILLEGAL ACTIVITY WOULD BE CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT TORRELIO WITH THE REQUEST THAT THEY BE REMOVED FROM OFFICE. (WE WOULD LEAVE IT TO TORRELIO AS TO HOW THIS COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHIN BOLIVIA BUREAUCRATIC/JUDICIAL PROCEDURES.)

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, THE DEA STAFF WOULD WORK WITH GOB AUTHORITIES TO ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE DOMESTIC ENFORSEMENT UNIT. DEA HAS ALREADY TRAINED MORE THAN 300 BOLIVIANS IN ITS PROGRAMS, AND THESE PERSONS PROVIDE READY CANDIDATES FOR THIS UNIT.

IF THESE GOALS ARE ACHIEVED, THE DEA OFFICE WOULD THEN BE ABLE TO CARRY-OUT ITS MORE TRADITIONAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES.

SINCE IT WILL TAKE SOME TIME TO BUILD THE STAFF TO THIS LEVEL, DEA IS PREPARED TO ASSIGN A TASK FORCE OF UP TO 10 PERSONS TO BOLIVIA FOR A PERIOD UP TO 90 DAYS, BEGINNING IN MID-JANUARY.

- B. A SUBSTANTIAL COCA CROP DESTRUCTION PROGRAM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 005485

E.O. 12065: GDS 1/5/82 (ENDERS, THOMAS O.)

TAGS: PINT, SNAR, BL

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS AND NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH BOLIVIA

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: WE HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE GOB'S NARCOTICS PERFORMANCE. THE NEW LAW LEGALIZING VAST AREAS OF COCA PLANTATION IS A MAJOR OBSTACLE TO ERADICATION. MOREOVER, THERE IS CREDIB-E EVIDENCE THAT SENIOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND MILITARY OFFICERS ARE IMPLICATED IN TRAFFICKING. AS AN INCENTIVE FOR PRESIDENT TORRELIO TO DEMONSTRATE HIS COMMITMENT TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH NARCOTICS, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO OFFER TORRELIO AN INCREASE IN THE DEA LA PAZ STAFF, PRECEDED BY A TDY TASK FORCE, AND UP TO $500,000 TO ASSIST GOB COCA CROP DESTRUCTION EFFORTS. TO ACHIEVE CREDIBILITY AND OBTAIN ANY FURTHER USG ASSISTANCE IN ITS ANTI-NARCOTICS PROGRAM, THE GOB MUST SHOW POSITIVE RESULTS IN ENFORCEMENT, ERADICATION AND LEAF INTERDICTION. TORRELIO SHOULD BE LEFT WITH NO DOUBT THAT GOB FAILURE TO IMPROVE ITS NARCOTICS PERFORMANCE IN ALL OF THESE

AREAS WILL SEVERELY RESTRICT OUR ABILITY TO COOPERATE WITH IT IN OTHER MATTERS. END SUMMARY.

3. THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM HAS BEEN AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE ONE OF THE TWO MAJOR OBSTCLES TO NORMALIZING OUR RELATIONS WITH BOLIVIA. (THE OTHER IS HUMAN RIGHTS.) WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE CHIEF OF THE PRINCIPAL ANTI-NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATION (COL. RENE OCAMPO) AND OTHER MILITARY OFFICERS ARE DEEPLY INVOLVED IN THE COCAINE TRAFFIC. AT THE SAME TIME, THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT PRESIDENT TORRELIO OR MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET HAVE BEEN COMPROMISED BY THE TRAFFICKERS.

4. AS YOU KNOW, UNDER THE RANGEL AND RODINO AMENDMENTS, WE ARE OBLIGED TO VOTE AGAINST MDB LOANS AND TO SUSPEND BILATERAL ASSISTANCE (ECONOMIC AND MILITARY) FOR COUNTRIES WHICH DO NOT TAKE ADEQUATE STEPS INTERALIA TO PREVENT CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES PRODUCED OR PROCESSED IN THEIR TERRITORY FROM ENTERING THE US UNLAWFULLY. WHILE A FORMAL DETERMINATION HAS NEVER BEEN MADE TO APPLY THESE PROVISIONS, WE ARE SUBJECT TO AN INFORMAL UNDERSTANDING

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IS THE MOST COST EFFECTIVE AND DIRECT METHOD FOR ATTACKING THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM. INM HAS AGREED TO ASSIST THE GOB IN THE ERADICATION OF A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF COCA CULTIVATION WITH UP TO $500,000 (SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF A GOB PLAN BY INM/WASHINGTON). YOU WILL RECALL THAT TWO SUCH SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGNS WERE CONDUCTED IN PERU IN 1979 AND 1980 (OPERATION GREENSEA). UNDER THE PREVIOUS BOLIVIAN NARCOTICS LAW THERE WAS SUBSTANTIAL ILLICIT COCA ACREAGE WHICH WAS READILY ACCESSIBLE. HOWEVER,

A MAJOR POTENTIAL OBSTACLE TO THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF CROP ERADICATION IS THE NEW NARCOTICS LAW, WHICH LEGALIZES ALL COCHABAMBA AND LA PAZ DEPARTMENT COCA CULTIVATION REGISTERED IN THE 1981 CENSUS. THE GOB MUST ACT TO REVERSE THIS MASS LEGALIZATION AND THEN THEY MUST COMPLETE A SIGNIFICANT ERADICATION EFFORT.

- C. THE GOB SHOULD UNDERTAKE PROGRAM OF CONTINUOUS INTERDICTION OF ILLICIT COCA LEAF ALONG THE MAIN ROADS UTILIZED BY TRAFFICKERS. SUCH ACTION WOULD REQUIRE MINIMAL RESOURCES AND WAS EFFECTIVELY, BUT BRIEFLY, CARRIED OUT LAST APRIL, WHEN GARCIA MEZA WAS SEEKING NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS.

- D. IN ORDER TO LEND PROFESSIONALISM AND INTEGRITY TO THE GOB ENFORCEMENT EFFORT, THE TOP AUTHORITIES MUST HAVE THE ABILITY TO ACT IN AN INDEPENDENT FASHION AGAINST NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS. WE UNDERTAND THAT COL. GUIDO LOPEZ IS ONE OF THE FEW OFFICIALS OF PROVEN INTEGRITY AND ABILITY WHO HAS REMAINED COMMITTED TO THE ANTI-NARCOTICS PROGRAM THROUGH THE YEARS. TORRELIO SHOULD BE TOLD THAT LOPEZ AND PEOPLE LIKE HIM MUST BE APPOINTED TO REPLACE OCAMPO AND OTHER KEY ANTI-NARCOTICS POSITIONS WITH FULL AUTHORITY TO ACT.

8. AMBASSADOR CORR SHOULD SEEK AN EARLY APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT TORRELIO TO PRESENT THE ABOVE PACKAGE. IT OFFERS HIM AN OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE THAT HIS ADMINISTRATION HAS BOTH THE WILL AND THE ABILITY TO DEAL WITH THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM. WHILE A RETURN OF US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PRE-JULY 1980 LEVELS IS NOT IN THE CARDS, TORRELIO SHOULD BE TOLD THAT THE GOB'S FAILURE TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM WILL PRECLUDE ANY INCREASE IN US AID ABOVE THE MINIMAL AMOUNTS NOW BEING DISBURSED. HE SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT WE ARE SEEKING SERIOUS GOB PERFORMANCE IN ALL FOUR AREAS DETAILED IN PARA 7 AND THT BOLIVIA'S FAILURE TO BE RESPONSIVE WILL SEVERELY RESTRICT OUR ABILITY TO COOPERATE WITH THE GOB IN OTHER IMPORTANT MATTERS. HAIG

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